

WASTE DISPOSAL SITE SURVEY

REPORT

together with

ADDITIONAL AND SEPARATE VIEWS

BY THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
INVESTIGATIONS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND
FOREIGN COMMERCE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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(II)

Honorable Harley O. Stagers
Chairman
Committee on Interstate and Foreign
Commerce
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The attached report of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations sets forth the results, findings, conclusions and recommendations relating to the Subcommittee's survey of process and waste disposal practices of the 53 largest domestic chemical companies. This survey was conducted in conjunction with the Subcommittee's year-long investigation of disposal problems, the results of which are contained in the Subcommittee's recently released report entitled, "Hazardous Waste Disposal".

During the course of the Subcommittee's investigation, it became clear that millions of tons of toxic wastes are disposed in an environmentally unsound manner, resulting in "ticking time bombs" which pose hazards to public health and the environment. Facing a paucity of information on the location and content of sites containing hazardous wastes, the Subcommittee conducted its own limited survey--the first national study of waste disposal sites--to begin to determine in a systematic manner, the number, nature and location of all waste disposal sites across the country. The largest chemical manufacturers were selected for the survey, not to single out that industry, but rather, because the chemical industry as a whole produces some of the most toxic wastes, even though by volume it is not the single largest generator of hazardous wastes each year.

The survey reveals that since 1950 the 53 companies, operating 1605 facilities, dumped wastes at 3,583 sites. Although only 34 percent of the sites were owned by the companies, 94 percent of the wastes were dumped in on-site facilities. During this thirty year period, the 53 generators produced 762 million tons of chemical process wastes of which 100 million tons went to sites which are now closed. In 1978 alone, 66 million tons were generated. The survey does not reveal what percentage of these wastes is hazardous.

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Our objective is not to assess blame or give undue publicity regarding the disposal practices of this industry or any of its component companies; rather we are soliciting your cooperation and assistance in obtaining as complete information as possible in a narrowly defined area. While our primary focus is on identifying abandoned and inactive sites, which may or may not be dangerous, we are requesting information about the overall disposal practices of each of the surveyed companies to better understand and deal with the problem.

The questionnaire has been designed to achieve the objective of the survey and yet minimize the burden on your company and avoid proprietary information as much as possible. With respect to the data you provide, you may be assured that the Subcommittee and its staff will treat the data with the same high degree of care and control accorded all investigative materials containing sensitive data. Unauthorized disclosures will not be made. At the same time, you should be aware that the Subcommittee may always authorize disclosure of information it deems to be in the public interest, consistent with our valid legislative purposes, and which is relevant to our investigation.

The survey forms (Forms A, B, C, and D), together with instructions, are enclosed. In addition, the Subcommittee staff will be available to respond to any questions you may have with regard to the questionnaire at a private briefing for the participating companies on Friday, April 27, 1979, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 2123 Rayburn House Office Building. It would be appreciated if you would withhold your questions until that time.

A copy of this letter, with enclosures, has been sent to your Washington representative. Sufficient quantities of the questionnaires for your company will be available following the staff briefing.

It is requested that the completed questionnaires be returned to the Subcommittee office by the close of business, Friday, June 29, 1979.

Your cooperation in this effort is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOB ECKHARDT,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.

Enclosures.

Appendix D

INSTRUCTIONS

WASTE DISPOSAL SITE SURVEY

PURPOSE

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY

TIME PERIOD TO BE COVERED

FORMS: A: GENERAL FACILITY INFORMATION

B: DISPOSAL SITE INFORMATION

C: HAULER INFORMATION

D: SUPPLEMENTAL HAULER INFORMATION

COMPLETING THE FORM

WHO TO CALL WITH QUESTIONS

WHO TO RETURN FORMS TO

WHEN TO RETURN FORMS

Conducted by:

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

U. S. House of Representatives

Hon. Bob Eckhardt, Chairman

April 1979

WHO TO RETURN FORMS TO

The Subcommittee requests that a company compile completed forms from all of their facilities and forward the entire package, at one time, to:

Hon. Bob Eckhardt, Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations
Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce
2323 Rayburn HOB
U. S. Congress
Washington, D. C. 20515

Attn: Survey Coordinator

WHEN TO RETURN FORMS

All completed forms are to be returned to the Subcommittee no later than June 29, 1979.

FORM A: GENERAL FACILITY INFORMATION

(DO NOT USE) (1-5)

Company Name: _____

Facility Name: _____

Address: _____

No. _____ Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Name of Person Completing Form: _____

Position: _____

Phone Number: () _____

1. Year Facility Opened 19 ☐ (10-11)
2. Primary SIC Code : ☐ (12-15)
3. Estimate the total amounts of process wastes (excluding wastes sold for use) generated by this facility during 1978:

thousand gallons	<input type="checkbox"/> (16-24)
hundred tons	<input type="checkbox"/> (25-32)
thousand cubic yards	<input type="checkbox"/> (33-41)
4. Estimate (in whole percents) how these process wastes generated in 1978 were disposed of:

in landfill	<input type="checkbox"/> (42-44)
in pit/pond/lagoon	<input type="checkbox"/> (45-47)
in deep well	<input type="checkbox"/> (48-50)
incinerated	<input type="checkbox"/> (51-53)
reprocessed/recycled	<input type="checkbox"/> (54-56)
evaporated	<input type="checkbox"/> (57-59)
unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> (60-62)
other (Specify _____)	<input type="checkbox"/> (63-65)
5. What is the total number of known sites (including disposal on the property where this facility is located as one site) that have been used for the disposal of process wastes from this facility since 1950?..... ☐ (66-68)
6. Have any of the process wastes generated at this facility been hauled (removed) from this facility for disposal? (Yes=1; no=2) ☐ (69)

IF YES, COMPLETE FORM "C"
7. Do you know the disposal site locations of all of the process waste hauled from your facility since 1950? (Yes=1; no=2) ☐ (70)

IF NO, COMPLETE ONE FORM "D" FOR EACH FIRM OR CONTRACTOR WHO TOOK WASTE TO AN UNKNOWN LOCATION
8. Specify the earliest year represented by information from company or facility records supplied on this and other forms 19 ☐ (71-72)
9. Specify the earliest year represented by information from employee knowledge supplied on this and other forms 19 ☐ (73-74)

FORM C: HAULER INFORMATION

PROVIDE A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL FIRMS AND INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS, INCLUDING THE COMPANY AND ITS AFFILIATES AND SUBSIDIARIES, USED TO REMOVE PROCESS WASTES FROM THIS FACILITY SINCE 1950.

Company Name: _____
 Facility Name: _____
 Name of Firm or Contractor: _____ Address: _____
 (If Known) ICC # _____
 Years Used _____

(DO NOT USE) (1-5)

FORM D: SUPPLEMENTAL HAULER INFORMATION

COMPLETE THIS FORM FOR EACH FIRM OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR (INCLUDING YOUR OWN COMPANY, ITS AFFILIATES & SUBSIDIARIES) WHO REMOVED PROCESS WASTE FROM THIS FACILITY SINCE 1950 AND TOOK IT TO AN UNKNOWN LOCATION

Company Name: _____
 Facility Name: _____
 Name of Hauling Firm/Contractor: _____
 Address: _____
 (city) _____ (street) _____ (state) _____ (zip code) _____

(DO NOT USE) (1-8)

1. Year first used 19 (10-11)
 2. Year last used (enter "79" if still in use) 19 (12-13)
 3. Total amount of process waste hauled from this facility:
 thousand gallons (14-21)
 hundred tons (22-28)
 thousand cubic yards (29-36)

4. Components (or characteristics) of process waste from this facility disposed at site: (1-present in waste; 2-not present in waste; 9-don't know):
 FILL IN EVERY BLOCK SPACE

Acid solutions, with pH < 3 (37)
 pickling liquor (38)
 metal plating waste (39)
 circuit etchings (40)
 inorganic acid manufacture (41)
 organic acid manufacture (42)
 Base solutions, with pH > 12 (43)
 caustic soda manufacture (44)
 nylon and similar polymer generation (45)
 scrubber residual (46)
 Heavy metals & trace metals (bonded organically & inorganically) (47)
 arsenic, selenium, antimony (48)
 mercury (49)
 iron, manganese, magnesium (50)
 zinc, cadmium, copper, chromium (trivalent) (51)
 chromium (hexavalent) (52)
 Lead (53)
 Radioactive residues, > 50 pico curies/gram (54)
 uranium residuals & residuals for U6 recycling (55)
 lanthanide series elements and rare earth salts (56)
 phosphate slag (57)
 thorium (58)
 radium (59)
 other alpha, beta & gamma emitters (60)
 Organics (61)
 insecticides & intermediates (62)
 herbicides & intermediates (63)
 fungicides & intermediates (64)
 rodenticides & intermediates (65)
 halogenated aliphatics (66)
 halogenated aromatics (67)
 acrylates & latex emulsions (68)
 PCB/PBB's (69)
 amides, amines, imides (70)
 plasticizers (71)
 resins (72)
 elastomers (73)
 solvents polar (except water) (74)
 carbon tetrachloride (75)
 trichloroethylene (76)
 other solvents nonpolar (77)
 solvents halogenated aliphatic (78)
 solvents halogenated aromatic (79)
 oils and oil sludges (80)
 esters and ethers (81)
 alcohols (82)
 ketones & aldehydes (83)
 dioxins (84)
 Inorganics (85)
 salts (86)
 mercaptans (87)
 Miscellaneous (88)
 pharmaceutical wastes (89)
 paints & pigments (90)
 catalysts (eg. vanadium, platinum, palladium) (91)
 asbestos (92)
 shock sensitive wastes (eg. nitrated toluenes) (93)
 air water reactive wastes (eg. P₄, aluminum chloride) (94)
 (24) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100